

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A fracture-proof flat clasping floorboard piece, which has an elongated strip shape; a slot mortise being formed along one of the long sides of the floorboard piece, while a tenon is provided along the other long side; the short sides of the floor board piece being also provided with a slot mortise and a tenon; the upper and lower side walls of the slot mortise being respectively short and long ends; the upper surface of the slot mortise being parallel to and having the same height with the upper surface of the tenon; characterized in that a V-shaped groove is provided in the lower surface of the slot mortise and a corresponding convexity being provided on the lower surface of the tenon; the convexity, in the insertion direction of the tenon, has an anti-self-locking oblique surface formed on its front end; the oblique surface forms a first angle with the upper surface of the floorboard strip; the first angle ranging from 15-35°; a corresponding oblique surface is formed on the external surface on the long end (lower side wall) of the slot mortise to engage with the anti-self-locking oblique surface; the rear end of the convexity matches perfectly with the external side surface of the V-shaped groove to form a self-locking surface, which forms a second angle with the upper surface of the strip; the second angle ranges from 30-70°; and the external shape of the tenon corresponds with the shape of the slot mortise.

2. (Original) The fracture-proof flat clasping floorboard strip as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the long end of the side wall of the slot mortise is 2-4mm longer than the short end.

3. (Currently Amended) A flooring assembled with fracture-proof flat clasping floorboard strips as claimed in ~~Claims 1 and 2~~ Claim 1 comprising a plurality of strips, characterized in that the tenon on one strip is inserted into the slot mortise in another strip to form a floor surface.

4. (Currently Amended) The fracture-proof flat clasping flooring as claimed in Claim [[5]] 1, characterized in that tenons and slot mortises formed along the long and/or short sides of different strips are assembled with one another.

5. (New) A flooring assembled with fracture-proof flat clasping floorboard strips as claimed in Claim 2 comprising a plurality of strips, characterized in that the tenon on one strip is inserted into the slot mortise in another strip to form a floor surface.